



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Hight III)
Serial No.: 10/056,701) Group Art Unit: 1744
Filed: January 25, 2002) Examiner: Monzer R. Chorbaji
For: Apparatus And Method For Ventilating)
Endoscope Soaking Basins)

FIRST RESPONSE WITH AMENDMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
Box Amendments
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the outstanding nonfinal Office Action of October 6, 2004, Applicants submit the following response and remarks.

A two-month extension of time is being requested. It is not believed that any additional extensions of time are required, since the last day for taking action fell on Sunday March 6, 2005, and the filing of this amendment and remarks is taking place on the next succeeding business day as allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.7. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 024300.

AMENDMENT

In response to the outstanding non-final Office as follows:

Amendments to claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 7.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22312-1450,

on 3/7/2005

Bess K. Murray
Signature